(*b*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the affirmative, whether the work is completed; and

(*c*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the negative, the reason for the same?

MR. P N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) A portion of the amount allotted has already been spent and the balance will be spent before the close of the year.

(*b*) The work is nearing completion.

(*c*) This does not arise.

Opening of a canal from Meenantura river to Ayarattumada embankment.

144. **MR. R. RAMAN PILLAI** (*Kottayam*): Will the Government be pleased to state the action taken in connection with the petition for opening a canal from the Meenantura river to the Ayarattunada embankment in Vadavatur *kara*.

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): The Chief Engineer reports that the Irrigation Investigation Officer has investigated the work in question and that the estimate for the same is under preparation.

Road from the 7th mile of the Lalam-Ponkunnam road to the 4th mile of the Kanjirapalli-Erattupetta road.

145. **MR. R. RAMAN PILLAI** (*Kottayam*): Will the Government b pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the inhabitants of the taluks of Kottayam, Minachil and Changanachery have opened a road, $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles in length, from the 7th mile of the Lalam-Ponkunnam road to the 4th mile of the Kanjirapalli-Erattupetta road;

(*b*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the affirmative, how many years is it since it was opened;

(*c*) how many petitions were addressed by the people to them or to the Chief Engineer regarding the said road;

(*d*) whether the said people have petitioned them or the Chief Engineer about the said road on or about the 21st of Edavam 1105;

(*e*) if so, the action taken by them or the Chief Engineer on the said petition or petitions; and

(*f*) whether they know that the petitioners are residing in hilly tracts where means of communication are very scanty?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) to (*d*) It is reported by the Chief Engineer that a petition dated the 21st Edavam 1105 was received by him and that no further information is available. The Government have not received any petition.

(*e*) The petition has been forwarded by the Chief Engineer to the Division Officer for report.

(*f*) The information is noted.

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